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Idaho Milk Production up 7.7 Percent

Idaho milk production during March 2006 totaled 893 million pounds, a 7.7 percent increase from the same month last year, and up 103 million pounds from February 2006, according to the National Agricultural Statistics Service. Revised production for February 2006 totaled 790 million pounds, down 5 million pounds from the preliminary estimate but 7.6 percent above February 2005. Average milk production per cow in March 2006 was 1,880 pounds, up 210 pounds from February 2006, and unchanged from March 2005. The average number of milk cows during March was 475,000 head, up 2,000 head from February 2006, and up 34,000 head from March 2005.

Milk production in the 23 major States during March totaled 14.6 billion pounds, up 5.5 percent from March 2005. February revised production, at 13.0 billion pounds, was up 5.9 percent from February 2005. The February revision represented a decrease of 7 million pounds from last month's preliminary production estimate. Production per cow in the 23 major States averaged 1,773 pounds for March, 66 pounds above March 2005. The number of milk cows on farms in the 23 major States was 8.22 million head, 124,000 head more than March 2005, and 17,000 head more than February 2006.

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